IN THE CLAIMS

The status of the claims as presently amended is as follows:

1. (*Currently Amended*) A magnetic disk medium comprising:

a substrate having a recording region, the recording region having a preformatted region with uneven surface structure, and a non-preformatted region with uniform surface structure,

wherein ID information for uniquely identifying the magnetic disk medium is recorded in the recording region, the ID information including first ID information prestored in the preformatted region and second ID information stored in the non-preformatted region, and

wherein the first ID information is different from the second ID information.

2. (*Currently* Amended) A magnetic disk medium ~~according to claim 1,~~comprising:

a substrate having a recording region, the recording region having a preformatted region with uneven surface structure, and a non-preformatted region with uniform surface structure,

wherein ID information for uniquely identifying the magnetic disk medium is recorded in the recording region, the ID information including first ID information prestored in the preformatted region and second ID information stored in the non-preformatted region, and

wherein the uneven surface structure of the preformatted region include pits that are sufficiently deep in relation to the uniform surface structure of the non-preformatted region to prevent inversion of magnetization direction by a magnetic field generated by a gap of a recording head of a fixed magnetic disk drive unit for writing to the magnetic disk medium.

3. (*Currently* Amended) A magnetic disk medium ~~according to claim 1,~~comprising:

a substrate having a recording region, the recording region having a preformatted region with uneven surface structure, and a non-preformatted region with uniform surface structure,

wherein ID information for uniquely identifying the magnetic disk medium is recorded in the recording region, the ID information including first ID information prestored in the preformatted region and second ID information stored in the non-preformatted region, and

wherein a pair of the first ID information and the second ID information are recorded on each recording surface of the magnetic disk medium and each pair has a different ID information.

4. (*Currently* Amended) A magnetic disk medium ~~according to claim 1,~~comprising:

a substrate having a recording region, the recording region having a preformatted region with uneven surface structure, and a non-preformatted region with uniform surface structure,

wherein ID information for uniquely identifying the magnetic disk medium is recorded in the recording region, the ID information including first ID information prestored in the preformatted region and second ID information stored in the non-preformatted region, and

wherein each of the first ID information and the second ID information is encrypted in terms of a prescribed cryptosystem.

5. (*Currently* Amended) A magnetic disk medium ~~according to claim 1,~~comprising:

a substrate having a recording region, the recording region having a preformatted region with uneven surface structure, and a non-preformatted region with uniform surface structure,

wherein ID information for uniquely identifying the magnetic disk medium is recorded in the recording region, the ID information including first ID information prestored in the preformatted region and second ID information stored in the non-preformatted region, and

wherein each of the first ID information and the second ID information includes a body of ID information that is identifying information and digital signature information for the body of ID information.

6. (*Currently Amended*) A fixed magnetic disk drive unit mounting one or more magnetic disk media ~~that are defined by claim 1,~~comprising a substrate having a recording region, the recording region having a preformatted region with uneven surface structure, and a non-preformatted region with uniform surface structure, wherein ID information for uniquely identifying the magnetic disk medium is recorded in the recording region, the ID information including first ID information prestored in the preformatted region and second ID information stored in the non-preformatted region, the fixed magnetic disk drive unit comprising:

a readout means for reading out the first ID information and the second ID information on the magnetic disk medium;

a decryption means for decrypting the first ID information and the second ID information;

a verification means for verifying the first ID information and the second ID information based on digital signature information; and

a transfer means for transferring a pair of the first ID information and the second ID information to a host apparatus.

7. (*Currently Amended*) A method of securing data in a magnetic recording medium, comprising the steps of:

providing a substrate having a recording region, the recording region having a preformatted region with uneven surface structure, and a non-preformatted region with uniform surface structure;

recording ID information for uniquely identifying the magnetic disk medium in the recording region,

wherein the ID information includes first storing first ID information in the preformatted region and then storing second ID information in the non-preformatted region, and

wherein the first ID information is different from the second ID information.